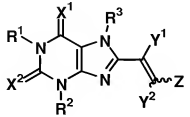
a.) Amendment to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~stabilization~~ suppressing dimerization of a ~~diarylvinylene~~ xanthine compound represented by formula (IA)

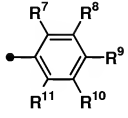


(IA)

(wherein Y^1 and Y^2 may be the same or different, and each represents a hydrogen atom, halogen or lower alkyl; Z represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl; R^1, R^2 and R^3 may be the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl or lower alkynyl; and X^1 and X^2 may be the same or different and each represents an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in a solid formulation containing the ~~diarylvinylene~~ xanthine compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which comprises providing iron oxide ~~allowing an inorganic substance and/or a colorant to exist~~ in the solid formulation, wherein dimerization of the xanthine compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt is suppressed.

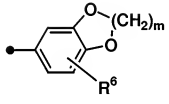
Claims 2-5 (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) The method ~~for stabilization~~ according to ~~claim 5~~ claim 1, wherein Y^1 and Y^2 each are a hydrogen atom; X^1 and X^2 each are an oxygen atom; R^1, R^2 and R^3 may be the same or different and each is a hydrogen atom or lower alkyl; and Z is formula (II)



(II)

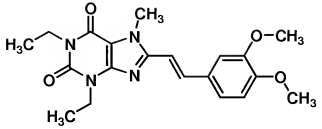
(wherein R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10} and R^{11} may be the same or different and each represents a hydrogen atom, lower alkyl or lower alkoxy) or formula (III)



(III)

(wherein R^6 represents a hydrogen atom, hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, nitro or amino; and m represents an integer of 1 to 3).

7. (Currently Amended) The method for stabilization according to claim 1 ~~claim 3~~, wherein the ~~diarylvinylene~~ xanthine compound is (E)-8-(3,4-dimethoxystyryl)-1,3-diethyl-7-methyl-3,7-dihydro-1H-purine-2,6-dione represented by formula (IB).



(IB)

8. (Currently Amended) The method for stabilization according to ~~claim 5~~ claim 1, wherein the solid formulation is a core containing the ~~diarylvinylene~~ xanthine compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which core bears a coated layer containing the iron oxide.

9. (Currently Amended) The method for stabilization according to claim 8, wherein the coated layer contains at least one of an inorganic substance ~~and a colorant~~ selected from the group consisting of titanium oxide, zinc oxide, magnesium oxide, talc, magnesium silicate, synthetic aluminum silicate, magnesium carbonate, calcium sulfate, aluminum sulfate and barium sulfate.

10. (Currently Amended) The method for stabilization according to claim 8 ~~claim 9~~, wherein the coated layer contains 0.01 to 70 parts by weight iron oxide per 100 parts by weight of the coated layer ~~0.001 to 10,000 part(s) by weight of the~~

~~inorganic substance and/or 0.001 to 10,000 part(s) by weight of the colorant per 100 parts by weight of the diarylvinylene compound or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The method for stabilization according to claim 9, wherein the coated layer contains ~~0.01 to 90 part(s) by weight of the inorganic substance and/or~~ 0.01 to 70 part(s) by weight of the ~~colorant~~ iron oxide per 100 parts by weight of the coated layer, and wherein the total amount of the inorganic substance and iron oxide ~~the colorant~~ is 0.01 to 90 part(s) by weight per 100 parts by weight of the coated layer.

12. (Currently Amended) The method for stabilization according to ~~claim 11, wherein the inorganic substance is one or more inorganic substance(s) selected from the group consisting of titanium oxide, zinc oxide, magnesium oxide, talc, magnesium silicate, synthetic aluminum silicate, magnesium carbonate, calcium sulfate, aluminum sulfate and barium sulfate~~ any one of claims 1 or 6-11, wherein the solid formulation comprises 0.001 to 10,000 parts by weight of iron oxide per 100 parts by weight of the xanthine compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claims 13-33 (Cancelled).